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## Local Government Committee

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### HB 2777

**Brief Description:** Creating a grant program to assist small communities in planning for new growth and development.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Clibborn, Ericksen, Ericks, Hinkle, O'Brien, Morrell, Sells, Sullivan, McIntire, Loomis, Haigh, Simpson and Kelley.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establishes a small communities infrastructure planning grant program (grant program) to be administered by the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development.</li><li>Creates a new account in the State Treasury for the grant program.</li></ul>



**Hearing Date:** 1/31/08

**Staff:** Lyset Cadena (786-7291).

**Background:**

Among other duties, the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (DCTED) assists small, rural communities that are simultaneously struggling with economic viability and compliance with health and environmental regulations.

**Summary of Bill:**

The DCTED is instructed to create and monitor a small communities infrastructure planning grant program.

Cities and towns with a population of less than 7,500 that are located in rural areas are eligible to receive grant awards under the program. Eligible activities for cities and towns that receive grant awards include:

- (1) transportation, utility, and capital facilities planning;

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- (2) multijurisdictional infrastructure planning, including joint planning between local jurisdictions and the private sector;
- (3) updating comprehensive plans and development regulations consistent with the grant program; and
- (4) other planning and technical assistance activities consistent with the grant program.

Priority must be given to applicants seeking funding for activities (1) and (2).

The DCTED must submit an annual report to the transportation and local government committees of the Legislature that identifies the number of applicants received, the communities selected to receive a grant award, the activity or activities for which each grant award was made, and the amount of each grant award.

A new account is created in the State Treasury for the grant program. All receipts from the proceeds of bond, sales, tax revenues, budget transfers, federal appropriations, gifts, or any other lawful source must be deposited in the account. The DCTED must provide management services for the account and establish procedures for account management.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.